

Application No. 10/606,552

Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A sheet transport system for transporting print media sheets in a part of a printer sheet feeding path, said sheet transport system having at least a plurality of sheet feeding rollers spaced apart along said sheet feeding path, each said sheet feeding roller having a substantially uniform diameter extending transversely fully across said sheet feeding path and uniformly exposed to direct contact with said print media sheets in said printer sheet feeding path, and wherein there is additionally provided in said sheet transport system a vacuum manifold underlying said plurality of sheet feeding rollers and at least one sheet transport baffle and airflow slot [adjacent to] between each of at least a said plurality of ~~said~~ sheet feeding rollers ~~is at least one airflow slot~~, said airflow slots extending transversely across said sheet feeding path, said airflow slots pneumatically communicating with ~~an~~ said underlying vacuum manifold to provide a vacuum force on said sheets ~~on~~ in said sheet transport system adjacent said plurality of sheet feeding rollers via said airflow slots extending transversely across said sheet feeding path ~~[[,]] said sheet transport system to hold said print media sheets against said sheet feeding rollers to provide~~ providing substantially uniform transverse temperature control over said print media sheets being fed by said sheet transport system.

2. (ORIGINAL) The sheet transport system of claim 1 wherein said sheet transport system provides substantially uniform cooling or heating of said print media sheets being fed by said sheet transport system.

3. (ORIGINAL) The sheet transport system of claim 1 wherein said sheet transport system is positioned in said printer sheet feeding path in a heated location.

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4. (ORIGINAL) The sheet transport system of claim 1 wherein said printer sheet feeding path includes a thermal image fuser and said sheet transport system is exposed to heat from said thermal image fuser.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The sheet transport system of claim 1 wherein said sheet transport system ~~further includes~~ sheet baffles between said sheet feeding rollers are extending uniformly transversely fully across said sheet feeding path, for uniform sheet ~~contact~~ control.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The sheet transport system of claim 1 wherein said airflow slots extend along both sides of said plural sheet feeding rollers and said print media sheets are held down against said plural sheet feeding rollers by vacuum airflows provided from said airflow slots on both sides of said plural sheet feeding ~~roller~~ rollers, which airflow slots extend transversely across ~~the~~ said sheet feeding path.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The sheet transport system of claim 1 wherein said airflow slots have a substantially uniform width and extend transversely across the entire said sheet feeding path along both sides of said plural sheet feeding rollers, ~~and~~ said airflow slots having a said substantially uniform width being smaller than said diameter of said plural sheet feeding rollers.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The sheet transport system of claim 6 ~~[[7]]~~ wherein said airflow slots on one side of said plural sheet feeding rollers are wider than said airflow slots on the opposite sides of said sheet feeding rollers.